GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:517
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2000
NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR COMMUNICABLE DISEASES
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute for Communicable Diseases is the apex scientific body to deal with plague, cholera, etc;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the institute to forecast its eruption forehand;

(c) whether NICD is extremely conservative in its approach to utilise the community in combating such diseases;

(d) whether there is any proposal to review the functioning of NICD;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government propose to make the NICD more community/education oriented so as to make the people aware of the prevalence of such diseases; (g) if so, the details thereof; and (h) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a) to (h): A statement is laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government has launched a National Surveillance Programme for Communicable Diseases (NSPCD) as a pilot project in 45 districts.

The main objectives of NSPCD is to strengthen the capability to forecast and undertake early detection of outbreaks and rapid response thereto so as to prevent and control communicable disease outbreaks, including diseases like plague and cholera.

(c)to(e): National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) does mobilise the services of the community for combating such diseases and adopts a progressive approach for this purpose. There is, therefore, no proposal to review the functioning of NICD.

(f) to (h): NICD is involved in implementing three National Health Programmes viz. National Surveillance Programme for Communicable Diseases (NSPCD),Guineaworm Eradication (GWEP) and Yaws Eradication Programme (YEP)The strategies of these programmes have components of community participation and their sensitization on aspects related to disease prevalence and its prevention and control. NICD also conducts a number of training programmes for health care providers from Medical Officers to Laboratory Technicians to equip them to correctly analyse samples of biological material which helps in capacity building of the health care service organisations.